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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.            | CONFIRMATION NO.       |
|---|-------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| 10/737,300  | 12/16/2003  | Michael Muller       | LOT920030036US1                | 7679                   |
| 23550 7590 07/17/2007<br>HOFFMAN WARNICK & D'ALESSANDRO, LLC<br>75 STATE STREET<br>14TH FLOOR<br>ALBANY, NY 12207 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>OSBERG, THUY THANH |                        |
|   |             |                      | ART UNIT<br>2179               | PAPER NUMBER           |
|   |             |                      | MAIL DATE<br>07/17/2007        | DELIVERY MODE<br>PAPER |

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

|                              |                                      |                                      |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b><br>10/737,300 | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>MULLER ET AL. |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b><br>Thuy Osberg       | <b>Art Unit</b><br>2179              |  |

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 June 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12-15 and 21-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 12-15 and 21-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                                | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed 06/15/2007 to the original application filed 12/16/2003. **This action is Final.**
  - A. Claims 1-10, 12-15 and 21-28 are pending in the application.
  - B. Claims 1-7, 9-10, 12, 15 and 21-27 were amended.
  - C. Claims 11 and 16-20 were canceled.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. **The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:**

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. **Claims 1-10, 12-15 and 21-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Chu et al. (US Pub 2004/0239683), hereinafter “Chu”.**

*For the convenience of the Applicant, the Examiner has pointed out particular references contained in the prior arts of record in the body of this action. Although the specified citations are representation of the teachings in the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. The Applicant should consider the entire reference(s) as applicable as to the limitations of the claims.*

**As to claims 1, 9 and 21 (Currently Amended)**, Chu teaches a method for providing a compact interface for display of an object hierarchy having a plurality of levels (Abstract, fig. 9A-9C; par [0059], comprising:

displaying a first level root node of the object hierarchy (fig.4, labels 31-33; par [0040]) in a first window (fig.4);

upon selection of the first level root node in the first window (par [0050], lines 21-26), displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing of all second level child nodes of the first level root node (fig. 8C, label 98: "UTILITIES", " DATABASE"; par [0050], lines 13-21) immediately adjacent and to a right side of the first level root node in the first window (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97; par [0051], lines 4-7, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window); and selecting one of the second level child nodes from the listing of all second level child nodes included in the pop-up window (fig. 8A, label 97; par [0050], lines 13-26); wherein, upon selection of one of the second level child nodes (par [0050], lines 21-26), the pop-up window that includes the listing of all second level child nodes of the first level root node disappears from the first window (par [0008]; par [0054]; par [0049], that when the dialog boxes could be made to appear by clicking on the nodes or to be hide (disappeared), if the user not clicking on the nodes), and is replaced by the selected second level child node, which is displayed immediately adjacent and to the right side of the first level root node in the first window (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels

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80, 97 “UTILITIES” “DATABASE”; par [0051], lines 4-7, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window), wherein the first level root node and the selected second level child node are displayed in a linear horizontal arrangement in the first window (fig. 8A, label 97, “PRODUCT W”, “UTILITIES” are displayed liner horizontal arrangement), and wherein a depth of a navigation path through the object hierarchy increases from left to right in the first window (par [0006]; fig. 4, label 300; par [0040]-[0041]; fig. 9C; par [0056]).

The difference from claim 21 to claim 1 is Chu further teaches a program product stored on a recordable medium (par [0029]) for providing a compact interface for display of an object hierarchy having a plurality of levels, which when executed (fig. 2; par [0038]).

**As to claims 2, 10 and 22 (Currently Amended),** Chu further teaches:

upon selection of the displayed second level child node in the first window (par [0051]), displaying a pop-up window that includes a listing of all third level child nodes of the displayed second level child node immediately adjacent and to a right side of the displayed second child node in the first window (fig 8A; label 97, “DATABASE 53”; par [0051], that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the

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window); and

selecting one of the third level child nodes from the listing of all third level child nodes included in the pop-up window (fig. 8C, label 98; par [0052]);

wherein, upon selection of one of the third level child nodes (par [0051], the pop-up window that includes the listing of all third level child nodes of the displayed second level child node disappears from the first window (par [0008]; par [0054 par [0049], that when the dialog boxes could be made to appear by clicking on the nodes or to be hide (disappeared), if the user not clicking on the nodes), and is replaced by the selected third level child node, which is displayed immediately adjacent and to the right side of the displayed second child node in the first window (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97 “C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA”; par [0051], lines 4-7, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window), wherein the first level root node, the second child node, and the selected third level child node are displayed in a linear horizontal arrangement in the first window (fig. 8A, labels 97, “PRODUCT W, UTILITIES, C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA”).

**As to claims 3 and 23 (Currently Amended),** Chu further teaches:

selectively repeating the above-described steps for at least one subsequent level in the object hierarchy (fig. 8A, labels 97, 53, 64-67), wherein each selected node is displayed immediately adjacent and to a right side of a selected node from a previous level of the object hierarchy in the first window (fig 8A; label 97, “DATABASE 53”; par [0051], that

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it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window) and wherein each selected node from a previous level in the object hierarchy (fig. 8A, labels 97, "DATABASE") and each selected node from a subsequent level in the object hierarchy (fig. 8A, labels 97, "D1.JAVA, D2.JAVA, D3.JAVA") are displayed in a linear horizontal arrangement in the first window (fig. 8A, labels 97, "DATABASE, D1.JAVA, D2.JAVA, D3.JAVA").

**As to claims 4, 12 and 24 (Currently Amended)**, Chu further teaches the first level root node and any selected nodes are displayed in a linear horizontal arrangement in the first window, wherein only a single node is displayed for each level of the object hierarchy (fig. 8C, labels 98, "PRODUCT, UTILITIES, C1.JAVA"); par [0052]; par [0050], lines 13-26, that other nodes can be hidden in the dialog box using Hide contained Nodes operation [0049]).

**As to claims 5, 13 and 25 (Currently Amended)**, Chu further teaches upon selection of one of the displayed nodes in the first window: displaying a pop-up window over the selected displayed node in the first window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97 "C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA", that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window), and displaying

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a pop-up window in the first window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected displayed node adjacent and to the right of the selected displayed node (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97 “C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA”; par [0051], lines 4-7, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window).

**As to claims 6, 14 and 26 (Currently Amended),** Chu further teaches upon selection of one of the displayed nodes in the first window:

displaying a pop-up window adjacent and to the left of the selected displayed node in the first window that includes a listing of at least one level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97 “UTILITIES, C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA”, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window), displaying a pop-up window over the selected displayed node in the first window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97 “C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA”, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window), and displaying a pop-up window adjacent and to the right of



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the selected displayed node in the first window that includes a listing of all child nodes of the selected displayed node (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97 “C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA”; par [0051], lines 4-7, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window).

**As to claims 7, 15 and 27 (Currently Amended),** Chu further teaches upon selection of one of the displayed nodes in the first window: displaying a pop-up window to the left of the selected displayed node in the first window that includes a listing of each level of ancestor nodes of the selected displayed node (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97 “UTILITIES, C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA”, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window), displaying a pop-up window over the selected displayed node in the first window that includes a listing of all sibling nodes of the selected displayed node (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97 “C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA”, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window), and displaying a pop-up window to the right of the selected displayed node in the first window that includes a listing of each level of descendant nodes of the selected displayed

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node (fig. 7A, label 95; par [0049]; fig. 8A, labels 80, 97 “C1.JAVA, C2.JAVA, C3.JAVA, D1.JAVA, D2.JAVA, D3.JAVA ”; par [0051], lines 4-7, that it will be recognized by those skill in the art that the shape and the location of the popup window may be varied according to the design choice of designers and computer programmer using such a popup widow to be displayed any where within the window).

**As to claims 8 and 28 (Currently Amended)**, Chu further teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising:

associating at least one of the displayed nodes with a functionality (fig. 7, label 95; [0049], that “Hide” operation (functionality); and upon selection of one of the displayed nodes, executing the functionality associated with the selected node (fig. 8C, label 51, 62; fig. 8D, label 309; par [0052]).

### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claim 1-10, 12-15 and 21-28 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

### ***Conclusion***

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

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§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thuy Osberg whose telephone number is 571-270-1258. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (8:30AM-5:00PM). If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Weilun Lo can be reached on 571-272-4847. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197

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(toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TTO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Weilun Lo', with a stylized, cursive script.

**WEILUN LO**  
**SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER**